

VFW EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The VFW maintains a fund for Military Personnel (Active, National Guard, Reservists), or their immediate family members¹ to be used specifically for emergency situations resulting from non-routine deployments². Assistance is in the form of a onetime grant of up to \$500 to the service member or family.

All requests will be screened and forwarded through the service member's command (for example a Chaplain) to the Director Military Assistance Program (MAP):

Name: Mr. Bud Haney, USA (ret)
Address: VFW National Headquarters,
406 W. 34th St.
Kansas City, MO 64111.
Phone: (816) 756-3390, Ext. 211
Email: BHaney@vfw.org

The VFW Military Assistance Program Director will investigate and insure eligibility of service member/dependent and legitimacy of each request for assistance. Grant delivery will be by registered mail, return receipt requested. The VFW will honor the confidentiality of anyone requesting assistance.

Any questions on the Emergency Financial Assistance Program should be addressed to the Director of the Military Assistance Program.

¹ Immediate family members are to be identified as those dependents listed as dependents under the military DEERS program, i.e. spouse, son, or daughter. Dependents must maintain residence with service member or be in a residence under the service member's obligation to maintain.

² An emergency situation is *outside the normal deployment* for the unit's composition and normal military mission. (See Examples). An emergency situation is due to an immediate need due to an event or events beyond the control of the individual or family member and NOT due to mismanagement of family income and or extravagant expenditures.

EXAMPLE 1: National Guard Units are normally used for emergencies within their state borders, i.e. floods, storm cleanup, riots, unless a declaration of a National Disaster Area is made by the President or Congress. Deployment outside of the state borders, other than the established rotation of units in supplementing their active duty division's mission, constitutes deployment outside the normal military mission, i.e. National Guardsman/Reservist activated for duty in Bosnia must be physically in the Theater of Operations in Bosnia, or in the Mission Supported Area, such as duty in Macedonia with unit headquarters in Bosnia.

EXAMPLE 2: Active Army units & individuals deployed overseas on regular rotations in Germany, Korea, Kosovo, and Bosnia is within the range of normal military missions. Deployments into areas to assist with natural disasters, famine and humanitarian relief are outside the normal military mission.